THE TENNESSEE FARMER.

BY THOMAS EMMERSON, AT $1 PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE—OR $1 50 AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

VOL. II.—No. 5.] JONESBOROUGH, MAY, 1837. [Whole No. 29.

For the Tennessee Farmer.

Culture of Blue Grass—No. 5.

CLINTON COLLEGE, MARCH 24.

Having shewn in No. 4, the mode and propriety of destroying undergrowth and shrub timber in pastures, the reader is naturally led to inquire, how shall we keep our pastures free from weeds and briars? I shall answer this inquiry by giving the practice of the graziers with whom I am acquainted in the stock countries of the U. States. But, before I proceed to that account, I must say to the Hon. Editor of the Farmer, and to the readers of that valuable Journal, that we have good news in this quarter. A revolution in the sentiments and practice of our farmers, has commenced. We have now, at least 100 advocates for grass and stock to one, that was here twelve months ago. Many of our citizens have begun to sow grass, and are determined never to cease till all their woodlands are fenced and brought into prolific pasture.—Such a press and cry for clover, timothy, herds grass, and blue grass seed, never was known here. If this spirit continues (and I believe it will) Middle Tennessee will soon be as desirable a country as any in the Union. But,

To destroy weeds and Briars in pastures.

Begin the first year after your pastures are sown, to cut all weeds and briars with a sythe, in the month of May, and continue every year afterwards to cut them in this month, and you will, in a few years, destroy them entirely. The propriety of beginning to cut them, while your pastures are young, is this: you prevent all noxious growths from taking much hold, and in the meantime, your pastures acquire such a sod as will keep them down for the future. Golden-rod, iron weed, dock and briars, though they are stubborn, may all be kept out of your lots in this way, with much less labor than one might imagine. While the pastures are new, and they are thinly scattered, a hand may clip over 10, 15, or 20 acres per day. Some graziers cut over their pastures twice a year, that is, in May and August. And there is an advantage gained by it; for, by thus keeping down more effectually those hurtful growths, they are destroyed sooner.

I do not pretend to give the reason why May or August should be selected for the destruction of those enemies of pasture; it is enough to say that the experience of all graziers with whom I have conversed, have taught them, that most all vegetable growths are easier destroyed during those two months. When weeds and briars are in bloom, or when their leaves and fruit are fully matured, a wound you inflict tends more to destroy them than the same wound would do at any other season.

You are to remember one thing and practice up to it closely; that is, your pastures ought to be clipt over every year. If you neglect them one season, you thereby give the weeds a start, and create for yourself, both increased and protracted trouble for the future. Some plants, if kept down, will cease to vegetate in one year, some in two, some in three, and others in four. But all perish the sooner, the more effectually they are kept down.

In addition to the foregoing process, you may do much to keep your pastures clear, by salting well your stock, and especially your sheep; for they will, if well salted, eat many weeds and bushes in preference to grass. The labor of destroying weeds and briars grows lighter every season, till all are exterminated, because they continue to diminish annually.

I did hope to be able to make out a sixth number, in giving the profits of blue grass pastures, but because some information for which I have written to some practical graziers of Kentucky, has not yet arrived, I must inform the reader that I shall go on to write upon the market price of stock, as connected with pasturage, meadows, and other subjects, for which I have the matter already collected; and when I get the expected information, the reader shall have it freely.

P. H. GORDON.

For the Tennessee Farmer.

Blue Grass and the Market.--No. 6.

CLINTON COLLEGE, APRIL 5.

I must apologize to the reader for thus connecting the market price of produce with blue-grass. I do so, because, while I advocate a general culture of Blue grass here, I am often told by my neighbors, (and I expect others reason in the same way) that "if we all go to raising grass and stock, we shall soon glut the market, and that hence, the grazing business will soon become unprofitable."

Now, my purpose is to explain the causes in general which regulate the market price of all commodities, and then point out, as far as I can, the effect that a general production of grass and stock in Tennessee, will have upon the market price of stock, and I hope that the thinking reader need not to be informed that this is a difficult subject; and will therefore require the concentration of all his powers of mind in order to understand me clearly.

To be plainly comprehended, I shall set forth three propositions, which I shall, in order, try to prove.

First—An increase of stock in Tennessee will not increase the amount of stock in the United States.

Second—A constant production of stock will raise the price of it.

Third, if our increase of stock here should enlarge the amount of stock in the U. States, that will not diminish the price of stock.

But the general market must be first understood, before we enter upon these propositions. Now the market price of any article we have for sale, is entirely regulated by the proportion between the supply of the article & the demand for it. The supply of the article is made up of all the articles of that kind which are in market. The demand for the article is made up of all the produce the purchasers have to sell for money, to buy the article with. For example: the Southern States produce rice, sugar and cotton, and with these, they get the money to buy every thing they do buy; then these articles are the demand for every thing sold to them. If they have an abundance to sell, it will bring them much money, and then they can give high prices for what they buy; but if they have but little to sell, it will bring them but little money, so that by the time they have divided it out for all the articles they have to buy, it leaves but little to be given for each article. They give a low price for all they purchase, because they have but little to give. Now, suppose we drive horses to the South for sale. The price we are to get will be fixed by just two circumstances, the amount of the Southern crops, and the number of horses in the market. If the South has produced fine crops of rice, sugar and cotton, and we have but few horses for sale, we shall then get fine prices; but if they have made bad crops and we have many horses in market, then we shall get low prices. In such a bad market we will underbid one another till we bring our prices down to what their scanty crops will allow them to give. But you must understand, that it is none but the horses *in market*, which affect the price. If we have thousands of horses and keep them hid, or do not offer them for sale, they will not sensibly affect the market price. If any one has a horse, and, though the owner wishes to sell him, if he is so far from the market that no purchaser knows he has him, that horse has no influence on the market any more than if he were not in existence. So any circumstance which would keep a horse from purchasers, would have the same effect. The horse must be in market, and purchasers must know that he is for sale, or he will not affect the market price of horses in general. Then all the horses we offer to sell to southern farmers constitute the supply; and all their produce is the demand; and the market price of horses is high when we have but few horses for sale, and they have abundant crops; and the market price is low when we have many horses and they have bad crops.

Now to our propositions.

1st. An increase of stock here, will not increase the amount of stock in the United States and therefore, the market could not be glutted by our stock, more than it now is. Let it be well remembered, that nature has blessed every country with a qualification for the production

of something useful; but that she has blessed no two countries with precisely the same qualifications. By nature one country is made for spices, another for coffee and cocoa; a third for indigo, sugar and rice; a fourth for cotton, oats and Indian corn; and a fifth for wheat, hay pasture, and the stock which live on grass, &c. As a general rule, that country which produces coffee, will not do well, if at all, for wheat, grass, &c.; and that which produces cotton in abundance, will not do well either for wheat, grass or stock, though it may produce them moderately. Now, it would be folly in the extreme for a Tennessean to raise the sugar cane, and it would be equally foolish for the citizen of Louisiana or Florida to devote his labor to the production of wheat or blue grass.

The only profitable course is for the citizens of each country to devote their whole attention to the production of such articles as their country is by nature qualified to produce in abundance. Let the inhabitants of sugar and cotton countries direct *all* their efforts to the production of sugar and cotton, and they will soon become wealthy; because, with the abundance with which their labor is blessed, they can purchase all necessaries of life, which are the bountiful products of other countries; and let the Tennesseean devote his whole labor to the production of corn, wheat and stock, with which his country will bless him freely. Let all countries act on the same plan, and the people of each country will not only enrich themselves but they will enable those of other sections to become rich also. If we produce horses, cattle, mules, sheep and hogs in abundance, the farmers of the Southern States will soon cease to raise them at all. They can make much more at sugar, rice, and cotton than at stock; and they never would deviate from their most profitable farming to raise stock, if they knew we would always supply them at a cheaper rate. Hundreds of them now raise stock as a matter of necessity, who would be glad to make more by sugar and cotton, if we would supply them with stock. They could make more at sugar and cotton exclusively, if we would furnish them plentifully with every species of stock and provision which can be cheaply produced here. Thus we might all turn our attention to grass and stock, without increasing the amount in the nation. If we begin, they will leave off raising stock, just in the proportion that we increase it here, because it will be their interest to do so. Their cane and the spontaneous growth of the forest, which heretofore produced much of their beef and pork, almost without attention, are fast giving way, and if we do not furnish them with provisions, they will have to devote much of their own labor to it, and consequently their farms will soon cease to be as profitable as they have been. Thus we, by attempting to raise cotton, will keep down the prosperity of the Southern farmers, and force ourselves to remain poor. But if we rear stock in abundance, which we can do, they will then raise as much less stock as we increase; hence the amount consumed will still be what it now is, and the market will not be glutted more than at present. The only difference will be, that we will raise all their provisions and work beasts, and they will produce more cotton to pay for them. We shall get more for our labor than if we produced cotton, and they will get more than if they produced stock, because our country was created for stock, ond theirs for cotton.

Second—A constant production of stock in our State will raise the price of it here. Let our farmers be in no dread of glutting the market, and reducing the price of stock by an increase of it. We have seen, in our general remarks upon the market price that an article which is not in the market, has no influence on the price of such articles; and we now add, that an article not in the market is always below the market price if sold at all. Two things are necessary to give any commodity for sale, all the advantages of the market. 1st. It must be convenient to purchasers, for they will always choose to buy what is close at hand, in preference to that at an inconvenient distance. 2nd. The product must be known to the purchasers, as an article for sale. The purchasers of produce will not go into a country where they have not learned that such articles as they want are made; and I might further add that purchasers will not hunt out those places where but little

is produced. Their first object is to find out where they can get a full supply speedily. Thus, those sections which produce stock in abundance are visited by numerous purchasers, who bid against each other, till they raise the price as high as they can possibly afford to give; while those sections that have but little stock, are never visited by but few, if any buyers, and their stock is below the market price, because it is not in market—there is not enough of it to bring it into notice. Tennessee is precisely in this predicament now. Scarcely any commodity we produce, except the unfortunate article of tobacco. is sufficiently abundant to bring it into the full notice of the purchasers in the market. Buyers go across our State to Kentucky and Ohio, and give better prices for stock than we get. Our scattering stock is not worth the attention of a large capitalist, and hence he goes by us just as if we had nothing for sale, and we are left to sell to such little-bussiness men as are willing to pick a beef or a hog in a place, whenever they can tease and bring us down to a reduced price. The purchaser can always afford to give more where he can get a full supply at once, and make a speedy return; because he saves his time, his travelling expenses, and the interest on his capital; and besides, he gets into the market at the time when he knows he can do best with his produce. Hence, when pork was selling here, last fall, at $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $5 nett, it was selling in Kentucky, at $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $5 gross, nearly $1 in the hundred there, more than here, though that country is 200 miles further from the market than ours. Many of those hogs were driven through our State. And it was similar with beef cattle. They were purchased every day at $5 per hundred, and driven across our State, while we could only get from $2 50, to $3 50. We are nearer the southern market than the Kentuckians, and purchasers could afford to give us more than them, if we were to keep an abundant supply. From these considerations, every one who thinks, must conclude, that an increase of stock here, would bring us fairly into the market, and consequently raise the price.

Third. If our increase of stock in Tennessee should increase the supply of stock in the Union, it would not glut the market and diminish the price. We saw in our 2nd proposition that an increase of stock, would raise its price here; and in in our 1st proposition, that our increase of stock would not increase the stock of the Union. Let us now suppose that the 1st position is not exactly true, but that the supply of stock would be increased by our attention to it. Even then, the price would not be diminished. The first effect of our supply would be to bring us into the market, and thus to raise the price of our stock to a common level with the market. After that, all the increase we add to the general supply of stock will cause an increase of sugar, indigo, rice and cotton, to the same amount. For, then the southerners will be fully at liberty to devote their whole labor and capital to the natural occupations of their soil, and consequently, their increase of wealth will bring new laborers to the South, to increase the consumption of our stock. And further, our general supply of the South, will offer new inducements for farmers to emigrate there; for, the advantages of the South will be thereby increased. Hundreds of capitalists in the United States, would go to the South, (who are now unwilling) if the market were abundantly supplied with horses, mules, and every kind of provision; but now the difficulty and the uncertainty of getting supplies, deter many from going. The Southern lands are fertile, and if they were allowed by us to take their intended, their natural course in production, the increase of wealth and consumption there would far overbalance the greatest increase of stock that our State can hope ever to produce. Hence, the supply of stock might be increased, and yet the price would be increased by it.

And this is tbe rational, the natural view of the matter. Then let us no more fear a glutting of the market. We are keeping ourselves poor, and crippling the efforts of the Southern States. Our interest, and that of the South are together; the prosperity of the one section will give prosperity to the other,and the reverse; the bad management of the one is injurious to the other.

F. H. GORDON.

MULBERRY.

A dry, sterile sand is unsuitable; and a shallow soil on a foundation of clay produces leaves of bad quality. In low rich grounds, and extensive plains or prairies, near ponds and in the valleys of rivers, the mulberry tree indeed grows most vigorously, yet the leaves being more watery, though voraciously devoured, they prolong the labors of the insect by inducing weakness, and injure the quality of the produce. These grounds are alike exposed to the destructive frosts of winter and of summer: the moisture of the atmosphere in such situations causes the leaves to become spotted and to mildew, and the leaves thus infected, if given to the insects are the sure sources of disease and of death.

Sunny expositions and the declivities of hills; those especially which slopes to the south, east- or west. The cocoons of mountainous countries are deemed superior to those of the plains, although not so large, they are usually of a whiter color. Plant the mulberry tree on the high uplands, and on the hills, for here they are neither exposed to suffer from the early and the latter frosts, nor are the leaves liable to become spotted or diseased from the mildew; and from these combined causes, the growth of the tree will be consequently prolonged for a double length of time.

Prepare the soil by suitable nutriment, to the depth of eighteen inches beneath the tree, and to a proper distance around. The roots of the mulberry tree strike downwards; other plants may therefore be profitably cultivated beneath its shade, which is not deemed pernicious, the whole ground being kept as a garden during the first years.

The climate of the countries bordering on the great northern arteries or rivers is in some degree unfavorable. The winds, which, unobstructed, follow almost invariably the general course of the valleys of these rivers, bring down alternately from high northern regions, and from other climes, a degree of cold, during winter, the most intense and destructive. On the best authority I am assured that the pear, and particularly the peach and the cherry, have, during the last winters, suffered partial destruction in the valley of the Connecticut, as far south as the country around the city of Hartford; and even still farther downwards and towards the sea. Even far below the city of Albany, on the Hudson or North river, the cherry tree particularly, and many other trees which are equally as hardy, and especially during all the period of their younger years, are, as I am assured, extremely likely to suffer death during winter, from the same destructive climate and causes.

The proper soils for the mulberry tree are "dry sandy, or stony." And trees growing on dry sandy, or stony soils, and situated on the open plains, and on hills the most exposed to cold winds, will be found to suffer least of all from the destructive frosts of autumn and of winter. With all authors I must agree in recommending a soil of but moderate fertility, and least of all, a cold, moist, and heavy soil on a clay foundation, or even a very rich soil; a dry soil on a friable subsoil, on gentle elevations or declivities, being the most suitable of all for the mulberry from China.—*Kenrick.*

TURNIPS, CORN, POTATOES, &c.

Assuming that 600 bushels of Swedish turnips will grow upon an acre of ground which will produce thirty-five bushels of corn, and that six bushels of the Swedes will fatten as much as one bushel of corn, it will be seen that one acre in ruta baga will go about as far in making beef as three acres in corn, with the further advantage that the latter will cost four times as much labor in its culture as the former. We have given an instance of the Swedes yielding more than 1500 bushels to the acre, and the opinion of an intelligent feeder that two bushels are as much for feeding, as one bushel of corn. The mangle wurtzel, the carrot and the parsnip, may be all raised in field culture, at about the same expense as corn, and they will give as great a yield, and afford as much nutriment as the ruta baga. The potato, whose culture we are all acquainted with, should be made to yield 300 bushels per acre; and these afford a far more profitable food than grain. A bullock will consume from 120 to 240 pounds of ruta baga per day; but if full fed with this or other roots, they will consume but little hay, and have little or no occasion for water.—*Cultivator.*

Experiments tried in a well or drill hole, 800 feet deep, at Montpelier, Vt., have shown that the increase of heat in descending, is at the rate of one degree for every 80 feet, Such an increase would indicate that in descending towards the earth's centre, at no very great distance from its surface, the heat must be such as to hold in a state of fusion, any body with which we are acquainted, and would seem to prove that the globe is in fact, in the depths of its interior, a large mass of materials, heated to melting. How far the above experiment may go to account for the existence of the hot springs which are found in various countries, we leave it to the scientific to decide; one thing is certain, that whatever may be the state of things at the centre of our ball, people on its outside are too often apt to get into hot water.—*N. E. Farmer.*

From the Cultivator.

DUTTON CORN.

Northampton January, 28th, 1837.

JUDGE BUEL—Dear Sir—The following is the method of culture, and result of the seed corn purchased of you last autumn, which, if you think proper, you are at liberty to give a place in the Cultivator. The variety is the twelve rowed early Dutton, or Buel corn, and is the best with which I am acquainted, particularly for latitudes north of 40°, on account of its early maturity, which is, I should say, two weeks earlier than the common or eight rowed kind. Out of several acres of the latter, planted the last season. I had not a bushel of sound corn, it being destroyed by the early frosts, while the Dutton was ripened and harvested on the 20th September, and did not give more than two per cent of soft corn. In the preparation of, the method of culture, &c. I pursued the course frequently recommended by you; but was through the whole process, exceedingly annoyed in contending with old prejudices and practices of laborers and others, who often rebelled, and were disposed to place themselves conservators over me, in spite of all resistance on my part. If their propheties were to prove true, my corn would have been seven times blasted. Grave doubts were expressed as to the advantage of the roller, and in the preparation of the seed, "whoever heard of rolling corn in *hot* tar? It will be scalded, ruined, and never come up." It *all* came up, however, and why? Because, being of the early variety, it was well ripened the preceding backward season. the reverse of which was much complained of in the common kind. Then, again, "it was too thick—depend upon it, sir, when you come to look for ears, you will find nothing but stalks; two feet and a half! four stalks in a hill! it is entirely too much—it will cover the ground and you will get nothing." As to smooth hoeing, or without hills, it was a thing they had "strong doubts about." The cultivator, however, was allowed to be "a grand thing," and clean weeding presented no objections; here of course was a long respite, and I was allowed quietly to enjoy the pleasant anticipation of a good crop.—It so happened that my corn was not hid in a corner, but grew in an open field, was subject to the daily inspection of many a passenger by, and I was much gratified by the frequent remark, "what a fine piece of corn!" But when the harvesting came, the objector says, "you have done wrong in cutting it up, it is better to top it," and again, "you are entirely too early, it will not harden." The fact is, however, it got thoroughly hard, and brighter or better corn I never saw; it was cut the 20th September, husked and weighed the 10th November. The piece of ground measured one acre and five and a half rods, and yielded eight thousand seven hundred and eleven and a half pounds, (which, at 75 lbs. the bushel, allowed by the agricultural society,) gave one hundred twelve and a half bushels to the acre; also, four heavy two horse loads of well cured corn stalks, worth more than a ton of the best hay.

PREPARATION OF THE GROUND, MANURE, &c.

I have a fine lot, containing six acres, lying east, and in full view from my house, slightly undulating and gently sloping, on which two or three years ago, I commenced farming in miniature, on the rotation system, that I might judge of the comparative profit of good systematic culture, (by some laughed at as book knowledge,) compared with a slovenly and parsimonious habit, too often persevered in, and I am so far, much pleased with the result; it speaks loud in favor of good husbandry. I am well satisfied, too, that you must feed your land if you would be fed yourself. This lot has for many years, (fifty or more, for aught I know,) been undisturbed by the plough, from the erroneous opinion that good grass land should remain for the scythe only. The soil is mostly a warm sandy loam; some part of it, however, is low and wet; this I have overcome by thorough draining. (On this subject I may here after have something to say.)

I prepared by deep ploughing last fall, a part of the above lot, carted and spread upon it the 10th of May, 38 loads of long unfermented stable dung to the acre, making five heaps to the load, dropped at five yards distance each way; this, after being carefully spread, was passed over with a heavy roller, and afterwards well harrowed, planted the 15th of May, and ashed as it made its appearance above ground.

ESTIMATE OF EXPENSES, &c.

Dr.

To ploughing with two yoke of cattle, 1 1-2 days, at $3,		$4 50
Rolling and harrowing 1 1-2 days, single team, at $2,		3 00
Seed corn,		1 00
Preparing seed corn with tar, &c		25
Planting, two days, at $1,		2 00
Three hoeings, two days each, at $1,		6 00
Horse and man 1 1-2 days, with cultivator, at $1,50,		2 25
Cutting and binding two days, at $1,		2 00
Picking and husking 7 days, at $1		7 00
38 loads manure, at $1	$38 00	
Carting and spreading, at 25 cents,	9 50	
	$47 50	
Deduct two-thirds for the succeeding crops in the rotation,		31 61

		15 89
20 bushels ashes, at 12 1-2 cts.		2 50
Spreading 1 day, at $1,		1,00
Interest on land, valued at $1,50,		9 00
		$56 39

Cr.

By 62 1-2 bushels corn, at $1, 50,	$93 75	
50 do. seed do. at $2,	100 00	
2 do. soft do. at 50 cents,	1 00	
4 loads stalks,	15 00	
	$209 75	
Deduct expenses,	56 39	
Profit,	$153 36	

I have not had experience enough to know which is the most preferable, to plough old sward land in the fall, and spread the manure on the surface the following spring, or to spread the manure in the spring before ploughing, and then turn it in. I think much may depend on the season, in the first practice; if the season should be dry, may not a good deal be dissipated by the winds? and again, if it should be wet may not the roots reap a greater advantage, than if it lay beneath the turf? I will thank you for your views on the subject.*

Although I used my own teams, and hire my labor by the month, at 12 to $14, yet in consequence of rainy weather, broken days, &c. I think it but right to charge the fair price of labor by the day, both for man and team. In estimates of this kind, the labor is frequently charged per day at the average of the price per month, which makes quite a different result.—The estimate of corn, at $1,50, may appear to many overrated, nevertheless it is a fact, that corn of an inferior quality is selling with us at that price.

Yours very respectfully,

H. G. BOWERS.

N. B. Since writing the above, it occured to me that, although in the preparation of seed corn, tar is recommended chiefly, as a protection against birds, it may also have another very important effect, (thereby saving a replanting in consequence of wet weather,) in providing a coat, impervious to the superabundant water until the sun shall, by its genial warmth, cause the germ to disengage itself from its confinement.

*Old sward, for corn land, is best ploughed in the fall, and if long manure is at command, it may be buried in the operation. It will undergo but a slight if any fermentation before ploughing, and the soil will imbibe what it gives off of nutriment. A clover lay is best ploughed early in May, having the manure previously spread. If, in the first, manure is not at command, we would recommend that the plough be set deep, and that the manure be buried in the spring, immediately preceding planting, by a superficial harrow, which shall leave the sod as much as possible undisturbed.—*Ed. Cult.*

On cutting cattle food.—A diversity of opinions exist among some of our correspondents, as to the length which hay & straw is most advantageously cut for horses and cattle—one party contending that an inch is short enough, and the other that it is not. We incline to the former opinion, and we would respectfully offer our reasons. The object in using the straw cutter is to prevent waste, and to facilitate the process of mastication. It is not enough to get the food into the stomach, but it should go there in a proper condition for easy digestion—in a perfect masticated form, the fibre broken down, and intimately incorporated with the saliva of the glands. It is uniformly enjoined upon persons who are sickly, or have weak stomachs, and it is a common admonition to the hale, to eat slow and to chew well their food before they swallow it, that it may more readily digest. And we see that cattle, high fed with corn and oats, often void the perfect grain, without its having benefited them a particle. Whether this would not be more or less the case with fine cut hay, we cannot judge from observation, but we are told it would be so. There is another difficulty to be apprehended from short cut food, if given to ruminating animals, as cattle or sheep, which chew the cud—that they would be very liable to lose this indispensable requisite to health. At all events, there can be no doubt, that all solid food should be perfectly chewed, and mixed thoroughly with saliva, before it passes to the stomach of the animal—the grain crushed, and the fibre of hay and straw broken by the teeth. To ensure this we doubt whether forage should be cut shorter than an inch, or an inch and a half. A gentleman who had fed largely with very fine cut hay, found that much was voided in an undigested state, tinged with blood from the intestines, and that his cattle, after a few weeks, ceased to thrive.

Cultivator.

There are three things to beware of through life. When a man is young, let him beware of his appetites; when middle aged, of his passions; and when old, of covetousness particularly.—*Confucius.*

The strongest symptom of wisdom in man, is his being sensible of his own follies.—*French.*

We do not correct our follies until we are sensible they are such.

RHUBARB.

This delightful vegetable has been too long neglected by the horticulturists of our country, and we take this opportunity of commending it to the favourable notice of our readers. As an ingredient for tarts, there is nothing superior to it. Those who have cultivated it, say with great truth and propriety that it is preferable to the goosberry for such culinary purposes: and it is so prolific in its growth that a dozen or a dozen and a half of plants is sufficient for a family. But if it is valuable as a desart, it is still more so for its medicinal virtues, and has no equal in those distressing affections of bowels which so afflict our children and carry them off by hundreds each summer. No head of a family who regards the health of his offspring should be without some dozen of plants in his garden, as in them he will have a sure and certain curative for the diseases to which we have before alluded. A friend in whose judgment and veracity we have every confidence, assures us, that an interesting little daughter of his was thoroughly cured by eating pies and other culinary preparations of the Rhubarb, after laboring for a long time under a chronic *Drairhœa*, which had so debilitated her, that hope of her recovery was abandoned.

The time for sowing the seed is *November*, and we take this *early* occasion of commending it to notice, in order that our remote subscribers may, if it so please them, avail themselves of the information herein contained, for we are solicitous to see it brought into general culture.

Farmer & Gardener.

From the American Gardener's Magazine.

Culture of the Pie Plant, or Rhubarb.

The pie Rhubarb is one of the best known substitutes for green gooseberry *tarts*, in the early part of the spring, and by many persons is greatly preferred in wholesomeness and flavor. This excellent vegetable has been cultivated in the vicinity of large cities, in most countries, where it has always found a steady demand, as a market vegetable, and in private gardens it is always the first consideration.

Culture and Management.—The rhubarb is of easy culture, and very hardy, which renders it peculiary adapted to this climate. It may be propagated either by seed or cuttings. The seed may be sown early in the spring, on a west border in drills, eighteen inches apart, and managed in the usual way of culture: the plants will be of a sufficient size to remove into a stationary bed, in the month of October, which is the best time for planting rheubarb.—The method I have generally followed, and found to answer best, in making new plantations, is, by dividing the old roots and crowns in such a manner that each set has one or more eyes. These *sets* I plant in nursery rows, two feet apart, and one foot from each other in the rows, in the spring, and remove them into there stationary beds in the fall.

Preparing and Planting.—The ground intended should be well prepared by manuring and trenching, as the rhubarb requires deep rich soil; this done, the bed may be divided into rows four feet apart each way, and at the angles the soil may be taken out of the depth of eighteen inches, into which may be planted one large root entire, which is to be covered with at least half of a wheel barrow of well rotted manure, when the surface may be levelled. The after management of rhubarb requires good culture, as manuring, keeping clean, &c. If the Plants are slightly protected, in the fall, with a quantity of manure, they will be benefitted, and will also strengthen their roots.

The routine of planting rhubarb should be every three years, as young plants always produce the most tender stalks or canes. The method I have adopted, is, to take up one-third of my bed every year, by which I always keep up a good succession of young plants.

Yours, EDWARD SAYERS.

Mode of Cooking.—Dr. Kitchiner gives several directions for cooking rhubarb, which must make excellent dishes: we can speak to the goodness of one of them. It is rather a matter of surprise, that this plant should be so little an object of cultivation in this country, when it is known to succeed so well, and furnishes a delicious repast for the table, early in the spring before any fruit arrives at sufficient maturity for that purpose.

"Peel and wash one or two dozen sticks of rhubarb; put them in a stew pan, with the peel of a lemon, a bit of cinnamon, two cloves, and as much moist sugar as will sweeten it; set it over a fire, and reduce it to a marmalade; pass it through a hair sieve; then add the peel of a lemon, and half a nutmeg grated, a quarter of a pound of good butter, and the yolk of four eggs and one white, and mix all well together; like a pie dish, that will just contain it, with a good puff paste; put the mixture in and bake it half an hour."

"Prepare rhubarb as above; cut it into small pieces into a tart-dish; sweeten with loaf-sugar pounded; cover it over with a good short crust past; sift a little sugar over the top, and bake half an hour in a rather hot oven; serve it up cold."

The following mode for making sherbet from it, is given by the same author: "Boil six or eight sticks of rhubarb (quite clean) ten minutes in a quart of water; strain the liquor through

a tamis into a jug, with the peel of a lemon cut very thin, and two tablepoonsfuls of clarified sugar; let it stand five or six hours, and it is fit to drink."

The Philadelphia Gazette says, that lead and iron are said to exist in a state of pure metal near Chariton river Mo.,—the former as if it had been divested of its dross in the furnace,the latter as perfect and unadulterated as pig iron.

We have conversed with a gentleman, lately returned from Missouri, who not only confirms the above statement, but adds, that, on a farm near the head waters of the St. Francis River, copper is so abundant that the proprietor had melted down 32000 pounds from the ore on the surface of the ground. Our informant has also discovered tin in abundance, a metal which was not previously known to exist in America.

Lou. Jour.

After the first of May next, we understand that colored persons will be prohibited from entering the Island of Cuba.

HINTS TO YOUNG FARMERS.—CULTURE OF THE MIND.

You know well, that one piece of land, a garden for instance, yields vastly more than another piece of ground of equal natural fertility. And you know equally well, that one man abounds more in knowledge and usefulness, than another to whom nature has been alike bountiful. It is culture—it the industry and perseverance of man, exerted in one case, and not in the otner, that produces the marked contrast in both. The cultivator is sure to be rewarded, in his harvests, for the care and labor which he bestows upon his soil; and the reward is no less certain to him who devotes his leisure hours to the culture of his mind. The soil administers to our animal wants. Knowledge not only assists in supplying these wants,but is the primary source of intellectual wealth,which dollars alone cannot give,and,when consorted with good habits tends to refine, elevate and distinguish men above their fellows. Talent is not hereditary. You will see, on looking around, that most of the distinguished men of our country have sprung from humble or obscure parentage. They are indebted for present distinction to the culture which they have themselves bestowed upon their minds. The road to usefulness and honorable distinction is equally open to you, and the time has arrived when you must decide whether you, will compete for the noble prize.

If you wish to be prosperous in your business—to know, and to profit by, the improvements of the age—cultivate your mind—for this is the great labor-saving machine. If you wish to see your children intelligent, thriving and respected, teach them, by example, to cultivate the mind. If you would be useful to your friends, and merit the confidence and esteem of your neighbors, seek early to qualify yourselves for the duties of social life, by the culture of the mind. If you aspire to intellectual enjoyments, which flow from the study of the material world—from the order, harmony and beauty, which meet us in every walk, in the manifold and wonderful works of the Creator—cultivate the mind. In fine, if you would prosper in your business, in your family and in society, cultivate the mind.

But knowledge is not always wisdom; and therefore, be as scrupulous in regard to your studies, as you are in regard to the seed which you deposite in the soil. You will reap whatever you sow; and the mind is as liable to be cumbered with weeds as is the soil. Read, therefore, whatever tends to instruct you in your business, to establish in you good habits, and to fit you for the responsible duties of life. Acquaint yourselves with the inventions and improvements of modern art. "Make yourselves acquainted with the general facts of science, with the wonderous laws by which the Almighty governs all around us; and with the endless illustrations of these laws, in the world and in all its parts. The facts of natural history will afford abundant matter for agreeable and useful knowledge. The plants, the animals, the minerals, and soils, of your country and of other countries; the changes of the seasons; the make and composition of all that surrounds you, duly observed, and made the subject of reading, of conversation, of reflection, will at once store your mind, and raise your ideas of the wisdom and goodness of Him, who, it will soon be perceived, has made all things; 'by number, weight and measure.' The study of your own frame, your bodily make and constitution, may be made an object at once of interest, instruction and benefit. Early may you be brought to perceive, in the very constitution of your own bodies, much of your duty enjoined by Him who formed you such as your are. Temperance, self-government, moderation, avoidance of all abuse of the body, are written in the very make of the body itself, And it will hence plainly appear, that when our Maker says, abstain from all intemperance, from all impunity, he does but say, "Do thyself no harm." "Who aims at excellence will be above mediocrity; who aims at mediocrity will fall short of it."

In France, although they raise so much silk they still import annually, to the amount of 43,000,000 francs of raw silk, or nearly one-third of all they consume, for the supply of their manufactures.

An Excellent Institution was three years ago organized at Boston, called the Boston Asylum and Farm School. The association established their farm school on an island near that city, as an asylum and school of instruction for destitute boys. The third annual report is interesting. The school has 107 boys, probably reclaimed from want and vice, and receiving instruction in useful knowledge, in morals and in labor. They work upon the farm, in the garden, and at mechanical employments, and are instructed in geography, the use of the globes, botany, singing, reading, &c. This is truly an excellent institution, and may be termed a manufactory of useful men from useless boys. We have the raw material in great abundance, in the higher as well as in the lower walks of life; and we rejoice to find a disposition, any where, to convert it into a useful commodity.

Cultivator.

From the Southern Agriculturist.

INDIAN CORN AND IRISH POTATOES.

"The progressive steps in agriculture are, and ought to be, slow; and it is contrary to the counsels of wisdom and prudence, to wish to deviate from customs, rendered sacred by time, until the new modes to be adopted, shall have received the sanction of successful experiment.

"The reproach which is every day made to the husbandman, of his indifference towards new modes of culture, appears to me not to be well founded; he wishes first to see and compare them with the methods to which he has been accustomed; he has neither the knowledge, nor the means of forming, beforehand, a just estimate of the advantages which they offer to him; he perseveres, then, in his old course, till some neighbour, richer and more enlightened than himself, is able to present to him, by the new mode, results more advantageous than he has obtained from his own.

"Example is the only lesson profitable to a husbandman. When one is placed before his eyes, and his reason is convinced of its goodness, he is not slow to follow it; and by no other way than this, can improved methods of agriculture be introduced and propagated."

Chaptal's Agric. Chem. Introd.

To the Editor of the Southern Agriculturist.

Sir,—There is sound philosophy in every line of the preceding extracts: and hence, I am neither disappointed nor displeased, at the distrust with which my proposition to raise Indian corn without tillage, has been received, It was so entirely new—so directly at variance with all the long established opinions on the subject, that it would have been almost a miracle if it had been received otherwise than with distrust—nay even with ridicule.

I have persevered. Last summer, I acted on the same principles; varying the practice in nothing except in the mode of planting. It seemed to me, that the great products of the northern states might, by my mode, be realized here. I accordingly adopted the manner of planting by which the Messrs. Pratts, of Madison county, New-York are represented by Judge Buel to have raised one hundred and seventy bushels to the acre, varying it only so as to suit the strength of my soil. I planted, in triple drills, the same ground as last year, 4 feet apart, from centre to centre, leaving the stalks 9 inches apart, in the drill. The whole will be better understood, by the following diagram:

a. . . . . . .
b. . . . . . .
c. . . . . . .
d. . . . . . .
e. . . . . . .
f. . . . . . .

The single drills, *a*, *b*, *c*, and *d*, *e*, *f*, are nine inches apart, and the stalks represented by the dots are nine inches apart. From the centre drill *b*, to the centre drill *e*, is four feet. I planted two grains in a place, afterwards removing the inferior stalk, so as to leave only one. When the corn was about 12 inches high I spread a small quantity of stable-yard manure, on the surface of the ground among the stalks; and then covered the whole surface, with leaves, four or five inches thick, as described in my former communication.—The whole was left undisturbed, until the corn was ripe. When gathered, and carefully measured, it turned out to be a product, at the rate of SEVENTY bushels to the acre. Last year it was FORTY-TWO.

I have succeeded in raising, and keeping through the winter, as fine Irish potatoes as I ever saw in the northern states. And I have come to the conclusion, that no man in the southern states, need spend a single dollar in the purchace of northern potatoes, except occasionally for seed. For even when they are most succcesfully produced, it is found best to exchange seed every two or three years.

The potatoe requires a moist, cool, loose soil. The common practice in the south, is to plant in hedges: and we take no care to protect the plant from our scorching sun. The consequence is, that in dry, hot weather, the plant is wilted, and cannot, therefore properly perform its office, in preparing the matter to be deposited in the tubes below the soil. The consequence of this is, that in summer, we eat imperfect, or

diseased potatoes; and we fail to keep them in winter for the very same reason that we would fail in keeping an imperfect, or diseased apple, or ear of corn. I have attempted to avoid these consequences. Ridges are necessary in England and Ireland, (both moist climates,) for the purpose of drainage. Our climate being hot and dry, requires the opposite practice.—I plant in trenches, 12 or 18 inches deep, according to soil; and put stable manure at the bottom, on which the potatoes are placed. The trenches are then filled with leaves, straw, and shucks, and these covered slightly with earth, taking care to leave the ground highest between the rows. When the potatoes are 6 or 8 inches high, the whole surface of the ground is carefully covered with leaves; leaving, of course the tops or the stalks out: In this way, no heat of summer wilts the leaves. They continue fresh and green. Blossoms are produced in profusion, followed by seed, which comes to full maturity. The tubes are large, dry, and of fine flavor; and being dug after the vines are completely dead, (about the middle of August,) are kept without any trouble all winter, either in barrels, or spread on the cellar floor. My first attempt, gave me a product at the rate of upwards of 300 bushels to the acre: and now, the last of February, I see no difference between them, and the best northern potatoes, when brought on the table.

Very respectfully, JAMES CAMAK.

Athens, Geo., Feb. 27, 1837.

Water Proof Boots and Shoes.—From having several years experienced its efficacy, we recommend the following composition to render boots and shoes impervious to water, with the single remark, that it is enjoined, among the primary rules of health, to "*keep the feet warm.*" The composition is: Tallow, half a pound; hog's lard, four ounces; turpentine, new bees' wax, and olive oil, each two ounces. Melt the materials together by a gentle heat, and rub with the mixture the boots or shoes, upper and under leather, the night before they are wanted. The better way is, to give the boots or shoes two or three coatings of the composition, at intervals, before they are worn at all. We have been days in snow water, in boots thus prepared, without the least inconvenience to the feet.—*Cult.*

From the Silk Manual.

NEW KIND OF INDIAN CORN.

Newbury, January 30, 1837.

MR. FESSENDEN—Dear Sir: I send you a few ears of Corn, as a sample of a kind which I have raised for the two last years. It was brought to this town from Rochester, N. H. some four or five years since, by a Mr. Clark, and is known with us by the name of the Clark corn. It has improved much since first introduced amongst us; it is principally ten and twelve rowed; at least three weeks earlier than the common kind, and will produce 3-4ths as much, planted in the common way; but if planted as it should be, not exceeding three feet apart each way, making about 4000 hills to the acre, the yield will be about equal to any kind we plant. It will way at least sixty pounds to the bushel, and will measure more from the ear when shelled than any kind I ever saw. One bushel of selected ears produced 1-2 bushel and 3 1-2 quarts; one bushel not selected 1-2 bushel and 2 quarts, making an average, at least of one bushel and 4 quarts, from two of ears. In 1835, I planted 1-2 an acre at the common distance, say 3 1-2 feet, land a gravelly loam, which produced more than forty bushels to the acre. In 1836, the same piece was planted about three feet distant, say 2000 hills, more than 200 of which were destroyed by worms and dry weather, still I harvested about 35 bushels of ears of sound ripe corn. Several others planted the same kind the past year, and obtained a good crop. We think it the best kind which has ever been introduced into this part of the country. A few bushels selected expressly for seed, can be had, if applied for, at the office of the New England Farmer, No. 52, N. Market Street, Boston.

Yours, respectfully, DANIEL ADAMS, 3d.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.

The New-York Sun, on the authority of an esteemed correspondent, gives the subjoined information, believing that it must be highly useful to farmers, and would perhaps prove a benefit to the corn market generally, were it adopted. Hundreds of thousands of bushels of corn are annually destroyed by birds, (particularly the black-bird and crow,) which might be preserved by a very simple method. The birds pull it up the moment it appears above ground, and eat the seed. In order to prevent this destruction, the farmer should first soak the seed well in salt water, until the chit is just on the eve of bursting through, then turn it into a veesel of tar, made soft by warming, and stir thoroughly, until every grain is well coated, when it may be separated for planting. Work in some pounded plaster, when planting, and this seed the birds will not disturb; it will come up rank and fine, and pay well for the trouble. If the corn is not soaked well before coating with tar, it will not be apt to come up, as the tar will naturally prevent the necessary moisture from penetrating through it. This has been tried by farmers who never could get a good crop of corn any way, and found it to succeed admirably.—*Farmer and Gardener.*

TENACITY OF THE APPLE TREE FOR LIFE.

A medical gentleman, who has recently made a tour through several of the western states, related to us the following singular instance, illustrative of the power of the apple tree to support life out of the ground.

In the month of October, 1835, Mr. *Alex. M. Coy*, living near Columbus Ohio, bought of a nurseryman on Long Island, 100 apple trees; they were then packed up, shipped via the great Erie canal and the lakes, to Cleavland, Ohio. On arriving at the point, the canal being frozen up the trees remained there until the latter end of March, 1836, when they were sent to *Columbus* Ohio, by the canal: they reached the latter place in the month of April, following. As it was presumed that the trees, which had now been out of the ground six months, were all dead, or their vital powers so far destroyed as to render their vegetating not only doubtful, but as was supposed, hopeless, the owner refused to receive them. In this situation they remained till May, when the agent of the canal forwarded them to their proprietor, who planted them out in his cornfield, rich limestone land, and tended them with his corn. At the period of planting, which was seven months from the time of there being taken up, the trees were partially in leaf, and notwithstanding all of these disadvantageous circumstances, 98 of them lived, only 2 of the hundred dying.—*Farmer and Gardener.*

CULTURE OF ONIONS.

The town of Wethersfield has long been famous for the large quantities of onions which are annually raised and exported to the West Indies and the Southern States. It has been superstitiously supposed there is something in the soil of Wethersfield peculiarly adapted to the culture of onions; and this whim has no doubt discouraged many from attempting the cultivation of this valuable root, in other sections of the country, equally favorable to its growth. It is true the soil of Wethersfield is a rich gravelly and sandy loam, well adapted to horticultural purposes; but the success of its inhabitants in the culture of onions, is attributable in a much graeter degree,to a particular virtue in the fingers of its females, than any peculiar properties in its soil.

The business of raising onions in Wethersfield, is reduced to a perfect system. The following is the method of cultivation. Early in the spring the land is manured by ploughing in fine manure from the stable or barn-yard, in the proportion of about ten loads to the acre. That of neat cattle is preferred, that of horses is considered of too heating a nature. After the manure is ploughed in, the land is well harowed and laid out into beds five feet wide. The beds are laid out by turning a furrow towards them each way. This raises the beds above the aisles and gives an opportunity for the water to run off should there be occasion for it. They are then raked with an iron-tooth, or common hay-rake, and the aisles suffered to remain as left by the plough. Thus prepared, the beds are ready to receive the seeds.

As early as the season will admit, the seed is sown in the following manner. A rake, with teeth a foot apart, is drawn crosswise of the beds for the purpose of making drills for the reception of the seed. The seed is then sowed in the drills, with the thumb and fingers, and covered with the hand. From ten to twelve pounds of seed is put upon an acre.—After the plants come up they are kept free of weeds, which generally require four weedings. A hoe of a suitable width to pass between the rows is used in weeding, which saves much labor. When ripe they are pulled and the tops cut off with a knife. A sufficient length of top is left to tie them to the straw in roping.—They are then roped, or bunched in ropes or bunches of 3 1-2 pounds, as required by the law of the State. An ordinary crop is from 6000 to 8000 ropes to the acre. The quantity annually raised in the town, is estimated from 1,000,000to 1,500,000 ropes which are sold at average price of $2 a hundred, amounting to from $20,000 to $30,000.

Most of the labor in raising onions in Wethersfield, is performed by females. The cultivation of an acre requires from fifty to sixty days labor of a female, whose wages, including board, is about forty-two cents a day. Though many of the young ladies of Wethersfield spend a portion of their time in onion gardens; yet in personal beauty, education and politeness, they are not excelled by families of far less industrious habits.—*Connecticut paper.*

From the Southern Agriculturist.

THE SWEET POTATO.

Mr. Editor: I sent you for publication in your January number, three experiments upon the raising of corn. I now present you with an experiment upon the raising of sweet potatoes, which, for several years, I have tried with great success.

Instead of planting my potatoes in rows, as is commonly done, I make hills about five feet apart each way. In each hill I place all the manure I intend to devote to the land. For instance, at the distance of five feet apart each way, I place about one quart of cotton seed,and a small portion of compost manure. I then haul up a hill over those, at the same time mixing the seed and manure with the soil as much as

possible. From the 25th of March to the 1st of April I commence planting. In each hill made as above, I plant 5 seed potatoes—placing them at equal distances from each other, upon the top of the hill. Potatoes so planted are more easily attended, than when planted in rows, and will, in every case, yield a larger crop.—Last year, in addition to cotton seed, and com post manure, I scattered about a table-spoonful of salt in each hill, and planted a quarter acre of potatoes in this way. It yielded me a larger crop than any other quarter acre in the whole field.

I have just received your February number, wherein I have read an article on the raising of potatoes from sprouts. I perfectly agree with the writer when he says that potatoes from sprouts will be earlier and larger, and I will, in addition to what he says, state that the yield will be greater.

For several years I have tried the mode on a small scale, and find that it succeeds well. It is apparently troublesome, and you will not get your negroes to relish the idea of abandoning old habits, or the mode of planting from sprouts would be adopted for our whole crops.

Georgia, Feb. 1837. NO EMIGRANT.

AN EXCELLENT PICKLE FOR BEEF AND PORK.

Mr. Editor,—Some time ago, I picked out of a newspaper, the subjoined receipt for curing beef and pork, I have put it into practice, and can vouch for its excellence. All who will give the receipt a trial, will be convinced, with the author of the receipt, "that there is no pickle in use to be compared with it. I spend the best part of my time at my plantation, and kill, every now and then, a beef, which I am obliged to salt, to keep from spoiling. Since I have tried this pickle, let me assure you, sir, that I have never eaten better salted beef, in my life. Respectfully yours. C. B. R.

Pickle for beef and pork.—The following receipt, for making pickle for beef and pork, is strongly recommended to the adoption of those who pickle beef and pork for family use. Persons in the trade, who will adopt it, will find a ready sale for their beef and pork. It has been used, by many families in this city, and always approved. I do not hesitate to assert, that there is no pickle in use, to be compared with it. It is familiarly known by the name of the "Knickerbocker Pickle." Could this receipt be generally adopted, our pickled beef and pork would have certain preference in the foreign market.

Receipt,—6 gallons water, 9 lbs. salt, coarse and fine mixed, 3lbs. brown sugar, 3 ounces saltpetre, 1 ounce pearlash, 1 quart molasses. In making a larger or smaller quantity of pickle, the above proportions are to be observed. Boil and skim these ingredients well, and when cold put it over the beef or pork.

An Old House-keeper.

THE RICH MAN'S DAUGHTERS.—BY A LADY.

It is often said that the times are strangely altered; and certain it is that the people are. It was thought honorable to labor, to be constantly engaged in some active and useful avocation, but now-a-days it is tho't honorable to be idle. There is much complaint of the high price of every necessary of human existence,and with much truth. But if the amount of idleness could be calculated with mathematical accuracy throughout our extended republic, allowing the drones only halfprice for services they might perform, which others are now paid for—it might not be an unsafe calculation to put down the whole amount now paid for provisions and and marketing in the United States. It is not a little inconsistent to hear parents whine about the price of provisions,while they bring up their daughters to walk the streets,and expend money.

In one of our great commercial cities, there resides a gentleman worth from two to three millions of dollars. He had three daughters, and required them alternately to go into the kitchen & superintend its domestic concerns. Health and happiness, he said, were thus promoted besides he could not only say, in vicissitudes of fortune that they might not, ere they should close their earthly career, be compelled to rely upon their hands for a livelihood; and he could say that they never could become good wives and the proper heads of a family, until they knew with practical experience all the economy of the household affairs. One of these daughters is now the lady of a Governor of one of the States; all at the head of very respectable families—and they carry out the principles implanted by their worthy parent—winning and securing the esteem of all around them.

Let the fair daughters of our country draw lessons from the industrious matrons of the past. The companions of the men who fought the battles of the Revolution were inured to hardships and accustomed to unceasing toil—and so did they educate their daughters. Health, contentment, happiness and plenty smiled around the family altar. The damsel who understood most thoroughly and economically the management of domestic matters, and who was not afraid to put her hands into a wash tub for fear of destroying the elasticity and dimming their snowy whiteness, was sought by the young men of those days as fit companions for life—but now-a-days, to learn the mysteries of the household would make our fair ones faint away, and to labor, comes not into the code of modern gentility.

COOKERY—CONTINUED.

Duck to Roast.—Mind your duck is well cleaned and wiped out with a cloth. For the stuffing, take an ounce of onion; chop it fine and mix with it a breakfast-cup full of wheat bread crumbs, a little pepper, salt and butter, and the yolk of an egg to bind it; mix these well together, and put into the duck. From half to three quarters of an hour will be enough to roast it, according to its size. When ducks begin to grow old, to ensure their being tender, in moderate weather, kill them a few days before you dress them.

Stewed Onions.—The large onions are the best. Take off the top coats of as many as you want, taking care not to cut off the tops or roots too near, or the onions will all go to pieces; put them into a stew-pan broad enough to hold them without laying them on the top of each other, and just cover them with water and a little milk. Put them on a slow fire and let them simmer about an hour and a half; draw a little butter and put over them.

Queen or Heart Cakes.—One pound of sugar, one pound of butter, eight eggs, one pound and a quarter of flour, a half of nutmeg grated. By adding two ounces of currants, a change may be made which will improve it.

Apple Dumplings.—Make paste the same as for apple pie; peel and core your apples; close the paste all around, and tie them in cloths very tight—one hour will boil them, and when you take them up, just dip them in cold water and put them in a cup the size of the dumpling, while you untie them, and they will turn out without breaking.

Humility.—Of all the virtues which adorn human nature, there is none more amiable than humility. It is the most charming ornament of the mind, that which gives a finishing stroke to all its other perfections. It invites the admiring spectator, and joins love with veneration, while pride, like the fiery guardian of paradise, keeps us at a distance, and mixes fear and aversion with the honors we pay to the great.

Justice consists in doing injury to no man, decency, in offending none.—*Tully.*

MANAGEMENT OF COWS.

Cows which are expected to calve, ought to be lodged by themselves in some convenient place, under cover, for a week or two before calving, as such care may be the means of saving the life of the calf, and perhaps of the dam also. In order that it may be ascertained when is the time when cows may be expected to calve an account should be kept of the time when each cow is put to the bull. The day and night after a cow has calved, she should be put under cover; her drink should be lukewarm, and she not be exposed to the dampness of the night.

Inflamed teats should be washed with two drachms of sugar of lead in a quart of water. Should tumors appear, apply a common warm mush of bran with a little lard.

To prevent cows from sucking their own milk it is said that rubbing the teats frequently with old and strong smelling cheese, is effectual.

The following prescription for drying cows, which continue to give milk till too near the time of their calving, or to expedite their becoming fat enough to be good beef, is taken from Monk's Agricultural Dictionary, an English work of established reputation:

"Take an ounce of powdered alum; boil it in two quarts of milk till it turns to whey; then take a large handful of sage, and boil it in the whey till you reduce it to one quart; rub her udder with a little of it, and give her the rest by way of drink; milk her clean before you give it to her, and as you see need repeat it.—Draw a little milk from her every second or third day, lest her udder be over-charged.—*N. E. Farmer.*

REARING CALVES.

The following mode of rearing calves, adopted by the society, denominated Shakers, in Canterbury, N. H., was communicated in a letter from Francis Winkley to Levi Bartlett, of Warren, N. H., and was published in the N. E. Farmer, in 1824; but such have been the changes since that period, in our subscription list, that it would probably be new to many of our readers.

"Let calves that come in the fore part of March, suck a week or ten days, then take them from the cow, giving them a moderate allowance of new milk to drink, till they have learned to drink it freely, then put in some skimmed milk; and we feed them wholly with skimmed milk, taking care to give it at about the temperature of milk taken directly from the cow, by heating a part of it and mixing it with the rest. Care should be taken not to scald the milk when heated; also not to give them any sour milk for this will make them scour. The trough or vessel in which they drink their milk, should like-

wise be kept clean, and not suffered to become sour. We let the milk stand about twelve hours before it is skimmed; giving a calf at first about four quarts, night and morning; increasing the mess as need requires, till he is six weeks old, from which time till ten weeks old, he will require perhaps 12 quarts per day.

When about ten weeks old, we begin to diminish the quantity of milk for about the space of two or three weeks, at which time we wean them. During the whole process, from two to fourteen weeks of age, calves should be well supplied with good hay, salt and provender, such as oats, wheat, bran and oil cake, ground fine.

"The particular advantages to be derived from the above method of treatment, are the following:

"1. It is much cheaper than to let them suck in the ordinary way, whereas it makes a great saving of cream for butter, and that without injuring the calves, if they are properly attended to.

"2. It prevents calves from moaning or pining so much while weaning as they would otherwise do, when taken from the cows.

"3. It not only prevents the cows being injured in consequence of the calves biting the teats, but also prevents their holding back the milk from the milker which often serves to diminish the quantity of milk afterwards.

"The only disadvantage to be found in the above method of treatment is, that it requires some more labor to feed them, where they thrive equally well in every respect as those do which are permited to suck in the ordinary way."—*New Eng. Farmer.*

TO FARMERS AND MECHANICS.

It is well known that the readiest way to kill trees by girdling, is to make the cutting high up the tree. But in cutting over timber land if the intention is to have another speedy and thrifty growth of timber, the trees should be cut close to the ground, and then vigorous sprouts will start in abundance, and not be likely to be broken by winds or by cattle browsing, as when cut in the usual height of 19 or 20 inches.—The sprouts can be thinned out to any desirable distance, to admit the air and sun. The best time to cut for timber is when the sap is down, in mid winter, say December and January. Timber for fencing posts will last much longer by setting that end in the ground which was uppermost as it grew. Trees growing on high, dry and open land are tough—have less sap, and are more solid than such as grow on moist land or swamps. Elm and beech are good and durable timber to be laid under water, and the elm is said to hold a nail under water better than any other timber. Some timber, as the oak, chesnut, and maple decay first internally or at the heart. Not so with yellow locust, red cedar or white mulberry. These are probably the best timber known for fencing posts. In the scale of durability the locust has the precedence—red cedar the second, and white mulberry the third; yet many contend that the mulberry for fencing posts, are inferior only to the yellow locust. Aside therefore from feeding silk worms with the foliage of the white mulberry, the attention of the farmer is directed to set the white mulberry around the borders of his pasture and other lands, and to cover some of his waste places with the yellow locust, not only for fencing posts but for ship timber. White wood and walnut are tough, and useful for many purposes, but the heart will be brittle.

In order to preserve timber from cracking while seasoning, it is recommended to hew or saw out the timber for the particular purposes wanted, and laid in the *hay mow* when the hay is carted in, and as the hay is fed out, the timber will be found better seasoned than by any process of seasoning by steam, or heat in a dry house and to prevent cracks. This mode of seasoning is recommended to carriage makers when they wish to have a little timber seasoned for some choice work. House joiners also would find it convenient to ensure some seasoned stuff for early spring work. But no mechanic could be more benefitted than the cabinet maker.

Northampton Courier.

VARNISH FOR PALES & COARSE WOOD WORK.

Take any quantity of tar, and grind with it as much Spanish brown as it will bear, without rendering it too thick to be used as a paint or varnish, and then spread it on the pales or other wood, as soon as convenient, for it quickly hardens by keeping.

This mixture must be laid on the wood to be varnished, by a large brush, or house-painter's tool; and the work should then be kept as free from dust and insects as possible, till the varnish be thoroughly dry. It will, if laid on smooth wood, have a very good gloss, and is an excellent preservation of it against moisture; on which account, as well as it being cheaper, it is far preferable to painting, not only for pales, but for weather-boarding, and all other kinds of wood-work for grosser purposes.—Where the glossy brown color is not liked, the work may be made of a grayish brown by mixing a small proportion of white lead, or whiting and ivory black with the Spanish brown.

Operative Mechanic.

The Steamboat Whistle outdone.—A Mississippi paper says, that Steam Jewsharps are now used to amuse the Firemen on steamboats.

RECEIPT FOR A COLD.

Take a large tea spoonful of flaxseed with two pennyworth of stick liquorice, and one quarter of a pound of new raising, put them in two quarts of soft water,and let it simmer over a slow fire, until it is reduced to one quart; then add to it a quarter of a pound of brown sugar candy pounded—a tablespoonful of white wine vinegar, or lemon juice; the vinegar is best to be added only to the quantity you are going immediately to take. Drink half pint at going to bed, and take a little when the cough is troublesome.

This receipt generally cures the worst of colds in one, two or three days. It is a sovereign balsamic cordial for the lungs, without the opening qualities, which engender fresh colds on going out. It has been known to cure colds that have almost settled in consumption, in less than 3 weeks.—*Bost Jour.*

Fruit Trees may be removed and transplanted after the first of October. Most farmers who transplant fruit trees, suffer a great loss by not doing the work well. The principal care needed, is, first, to dig the holes deep; secondly, to preserve carefully, the roots as entire and uninjured as possible, and not to suffer them to become dry out of the ground; and thirdly, to fill the hole with finely pulverized, rich earth, (not manure,) shaking in small quantities, and packing it closely, but gently, about the roots, so as to leave them in their natural position in the soil. The whole expense of this, would not be more than half the price of the tree, and in five years it would be three times the size, which it would be, if transplanted by the common way of digging small holes, and doing the work hastily and imperfectly.—*Gen. Far.*

A calculating cotemporary says that Rice is always one of the cheapest articles of food, and now it is no higher than usual, notwithstanding flour is nearly double its common price. Nothing is so cheap in the present state of prices as rice, and nothing is more healthy or more palatable.

MURDER.—Murder of what? Why of a beefsteak! See that cook—she puts a good beef steak over a slow fire, instead of a hot one,—Instead of doing it quick, she broils it slowly for an hour: then it is as tough as leather.—Then she greases it till it swims in rancid butter. When it is cold, or nearly so, she brings it on the table. Is not this murder?

Roasted chesnuts are said to be gaining use in Maryland, instead of coffee; as a refreshment.

THE VOICE OF SPRING.

There is a voice on the river,
A voice in the vale,
In the leaflets that quiver
In the rush of the gale,
In forests, on mountains
Its music is heard,
And silvery fountains
Awake at its word,
And feathery singers are out on the wing;
For nature revives at the voice of the Spring.

"Awaken, awaken!
Leaf, river and tree;
Your chains I have shaken,
Again ye are free:
Soon founts shall be gushing
With musical streams,
And flowers be blushing
With the bright hues of dreams,
And jewels of beauty on earth I will fling,
For nature shall bloom at the coming of Spring."

There's life in the waters,
There's light in the skies,
Spring's flower-crowned daughters
In beauty arise;
O'er earth they are flinging
Their spells of delight,
And roses are springing
From the tears of the night;
There's a charm and a glory on earth's meanest thing
For nature blooms bright at the voice of the Spring.

MORUS MULTICAULIS SEED.

THE undersigned offers for sale the Seed of the genuine Chinese Mulberry, imported direct from France by Smith & Sons, New York, and warranted the growth of 1836.

☞ Said Seed is put up in half oz. papers, and will be sent per mail, free of charge, to any part of the United States, on the receipt of $3 for one, or $5 for two papers. Notes of all solvent Banks received in payment. Short directions furnished each order for cultivating. SETH WHALEN, Postmaster,

March, 1837. Whalen's Store, New York

CONTENTS.

Culture of Bluegrass, No. 5. . . . page 65
Bluegrass and the market, No. 6 66
Mulberry—Turnips, corn, potatoes,—Experiments, 69
Dutton Corn, ... 70
On cutting cattle food—Items, ... 71
Rhubarb, ... 72
Hints to young Farmers—Items, ... 73
An excellent institution, ... 74
Indian corn and Irish potatoes, ... ib.
Water proof boots and shoes, ... 75
New kind of Indian corn, ... ib.
Important to Farmers, ... ib.
Culture of Onions, ... 76
Tenacity of the Apple tree, ... ib.
The sweet potato, ... ib.
Pickle for beef and pork, ... 77
The rich man's daughter, ... ib.
Cookery, continued, ... 78
Humility, ... ib.
Management of cows, ... ib.
Rearing calves, ... ib.
To farmers and Mechanics 79
Varnish for pales and coarse wood work, . . . ib.
Items, ... ib
Receipt for cold, ... 80
Fruit Trees—Items, ... ib
Poetry—Advertisement. . . . . ib